



## North Syracuse Central School District

## Smith Road Elementary School

5959 Smith Road  
N. Syracuse, NY 13212  
(315) 218-2800  
Fax (315) 218-2885

**Donna J. Fountain**  
Principal

5355 West Taft Road  
North Syracuse  
New York 13212  
Tel: (315) 218-2100  
Fax: (315) 218-2185  
www.nscsd.org

**Jerome F. Melvin, Ph.D.**  
Superintendent of Schools

**Stanley C. Finkle**  
Assistant Superintendent for  
Instruction

**Wayne D. Bleau**  
Assistant Superintendent for  
Management

To Whom It May Concern:

It gives me great pleasure to write this letter of recommendation for Ms. Heather Turner for the position of school librarian. I have known Ms. Turner for two years in my capacity as Principal of Smith Road Elementary. Due to budget cuts, sadly, she will be leaving Smith Road at the end of this school year.

Ms. Turner goes above and beyond each day to make sure each and every one of the students she is working with is benefiting from their educational experience. She has high expectations for student achievement, and students are always eager to reach the goals she sets for them. Ms. Turner establishes great rapport with all students and teachers. She works hard to create a partnership with the classroom teachers for the benefit of the students. She has worked collaboratively to create several interdisciplinary lessons that integrate library media skills with the skills they are learning in the classroom.

Ms. Turner helps all students learn not only their academics, but also promotes the love of reading and writing through her organization of opportunities outside the classroom. Over the past two years, she has implemented several book fairs, and has worked with our parent group to bring guest children's authors to the school. This year she has been a key person in the organization of a school wide Literacy Night. In addition, she promotes the use of technology through virtual field trips and works with the students in the computer lab to develop and complete projects.

Smith Road is in the design phase of a \$16.9 million building project. Ms. Turner has been an integral part of the newly designed library media center. Her vision for this space includes a TV production studio that will allow students to create morning announcements that will be broadcast daily to the student body. This is just a sample of her forward thinking into teaching 21<sup>st</sup> Century Skills to our students.

I believe that Ms. Turner will be a great asset to any school who is lucky enough to hire her. I would be happy to speak with you at any time about her candidacy for a position.

Sincerely,

Donna J. Fountain  
Smith Rd. Elem. Principal

"We're On The Move!"